

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

FINAL CEREAL HARVEST FORECAST, 1938-39.

I. ESTIMATED YIELDS 1938-39 (1937-38 Actual in parentheses).

Wheat	30,700,000	(43,428,423)	bushels.	Average	9.97	(13.73)	bush.
Barley	7,000,000	(8,647,043)	bushels.	Average	14.89	(21.02)	bush.
Oats	2,400,000	(2,960,944)	bushels.	Average	7.38	(8.91)	bush.
Hay(W.& O.)	600,000	(653,362)	tons.	Average	1.06	(1.22)	tons

II. REMARKS - WHEAT FORECAST.

A preliminary forecast was issued in November based on reports received from collectors during the first week in that month. The reports then received indicated a yield of 31,300,000 bushels of Wheat.

The reports now received indicate a slightly lower yield, viz. 30,700,000 bushels.

III. WHEAT YIELDS AND AVERAGES IN PRINCIPAL COUNTIES, 1938-39 & 1937-38.

County	1938-39		1937-38		County	1938-39		1937-38	
	Bush. ,000	Per acre	Bush. ,000	Per acre		Bush. ,000	Per acre	Bush. ,000	Per acre
Eyre	350	4.4	779	9.6	Dufferin	575	8.0	414	5.8
Fergusson	2400	17.0	2995	19.4	Flinders	1100	14.7	1129	15.7
Gawler	1350	14.2	2203	19.0	Jervois	1975	9.4	2105	11.3
Light	1500	17.6	1717	18.3	Le Hunte	865	7.9	925	8.8
Daly	3675	13.0	4940	16.7	Musgrave	600	10.3	825	13.7
Stanley	3725	15.9	4889	20.6	Robinson	1050	8.3	1088	8.7
Victoria	2560	13.1	3799	19.0	Way	675	7.7	368	4.2
Dalhousie	700	7.6	1244	13.7	Albert	675	4.1	1776	10.2
Frome	875	6.2	2413	15.9	Alfred	950	4.6	2423	11.5
Buckingham	400	16.5	654	22.3	Buccleuch	700	6.0	1146	9.8
Buxton	720	8.4	644	8.2	Chandos	1200	8.3	2239	15.5

IV. RAINFALL - AGRICULTURAL AREAS.

April-Nov. 1938, 10.17, Mean 12.58 ins.

The following return shows that the April rainfall was above average - May very dry - June, July and August practically equal to average, the net result being April-August 8.51 inches compared with the 33 years' mean of 8.56 inches and prospects were then very promising. However September-November was exceptionally dry with only 1.66 inches (mean 3.92 inches), the Western Division total for those 3 months being only .90 inches and the Murray Mallee .83 inches. The Northern Districts had heavy rains towards the end of October, but these were too late for many crops in the Upper North Division, which had only received 3.95 (7.03) inches for April to September - grasshoppers were also very bad in this Division. The showers at the end of October and early November, with cool weather, were very helpful but the previous dry spell and hot winds had been too severe for late sown crops, especially in the marginal districts and those not on fallow. Indications are that probably 250,000 acres of wheat have failed and a further 225,000 acres would not yield more than 3 bushels per acre.

Months	STATE		DIVISIONS 1938.					
	1938	Mean 33 yrs	Central	Lower North	Upper North	South East.	Westn.	Murray Mallee
	In.	In.	In.	In.	In.	In.	In.	In.
April	2.13	.90	3.42	2.14	.76	3.64	1.52	2.20
May	.62	1.77	.73	.16	.04	1.08	.91	.25
June	1.99	2.08	1.89	1.17	.76	3.40	2.62	.98
July	1.87	1.93	2.06	2.24	1.12	2.41	1.70	1.99
August	1.90	1.98	2.66	1.91	1.19	1.78	2.17	1.15
September	.44	1.70	.69	.27	.08	1.21	.36	.16
October	.86	1.31	.57	1.67	2.70	.47	.48	.19
November	.36	.91	.43	.34	.28	1.07	.06	.48
Total 1938	10.17	-	12.45	9.90	6.93	15.06	9.82	7.40
Mean 33 years	-	12.58	15.99	12.20	8.80	19.38	11.01	10.37

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FINAL CEREAL HARVEST FORECAST, 1938-39.

		Estimated 1938-39	Actual 1937-38	Mean 5 seasons to 1937-38
A R E A S C R O P P E D.				
		<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>
All Purposes	Wheat	3,355,000	3,358,008	3,481,946
	Barley	500,000	437,462	367,959
	Oats	735,000	757,952	695,992
	Total	4,590,000	4,553,422	4,545,897
For Grain	Wheat	3,080,000	3,161,739	3,243,941
	Barley	470,000	411,288	346,764
	Oats	325,000	332,434	335,839
	Total	3,875,000	3,905,461	3,926,544
For Hay	Wheat	265,000	194,196	232,566
	Oats	300,000	343,480	296,802
	Total W & O.	565,000	537,676	529,368
Fed Off &c.	Total	150,000	110,285	89,985
P R O D U C T I O N - T O T A L Y I E L D S A N D A V E R A G E S.				
W H E A T.	Divisions	<u>Bushels</u>	<u>Bushels</u>	<u>Bushels</u>
	Central	6,525,000 13.60	8,743,833 16.53	7,339,781 14.38
	Lower North	10,400,000 13.87	14,235,492 18.37	11,431,818 14.85
	Upper North	1,650,000 5.90	3,926,091 13.03	2,523,782 8.14
	South Eastern	550,000 14.82	895,170 20.80	650,508 19.64
	Western	7,850,000 9.13	7,713,084 9.36	6,163,848 6.78
	Murray Mallee	3,725,000 5.52	7,914,753 11.47	5,207,841 7.32
	Total	30,700,000 9.97	43,428,423 13.73	33,317,578 10.27
<u>BARLEY</u>		7,000,000 14.89	8,647,043 21.02	6,067,738 17.50
<u>OATS</u>		2,400,000 7.38	2,960,944 8.91	2,441,109 7.27
<u>HAY</u>	Wheaten Oaten	<u>Tons</u> 315,000 285,000	<u>Tons</u> 273,562 379,800	<u>Tons</u> 272,553 278,878
	Total W. & O.	600,000 1.06	653,362 1.22	551,431 1.04

Method of Estimating - The Wheat areas are subdivided into 500 Districts and estimates are made for each of these. Acreage Sown - At beginning of season, the area to be sown is obtained from all farmers, and adjusted as per reports received after sowing.

Tabulation - General Reports are obtained from Police Officers for each District and through them this year 20% of the farmers, representing over 25% of the acreage sown, reported their prospects as at end of November. From these, the above forecast has been compiled.